

COVID-19 CONSTITUENT RESOURCES TOOLKIT

Montgomery County, MD



Originally produced and distributed by the Office of Councilmember Craig Rice

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HEALTH & SAFETY



State Orders & Best Practices

- Per the Governor’s order (March 30), all Marylanders are ordered to stay home to help reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The only exceptions are for “essential activities” as defined in his order. Essential activities include picking up groceries or meals from restaurants, caring for family or friends, medical care, and other important, critical needs. To see the order, go to: <https://governor.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Gatherings-FOURTH-AMENDED-3.30.20.pdf>
- Maintain the **6 – 20 – 100**
 - **6 feet** apart from other people to maintain physical distancing
 - **20 seconds** to wash your hands with soap and water
 - **100 degrees** in the body temperature that individuals should stay home with.
- For updates on COVID-19 in Montgomery County go to <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs/rightnav/coronavirus.html>

COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposures

- Follow these guidelines if you are sick: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>
- Stay away from others when you are sick and avoid close contact with people who are sick. Only visit an Emergency Room if your doctor has ordered you to.
- If insured, please contact your primary care doctor or insurance provider. Your provider will coordinate any testing if appropriate.
- For those without insurance, visit **Montgomery Cares** for clinic locations at <https://www.primarycarecoalition.org/montgomerycaresorg.html>. Eligibility for this program is through **Montgomery County Office of Eligibility and Support Services** at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS-Program/Program.aspx?id=PHS/PHSProgramEligibility-p732.html> or call 311 for assistance.

Medical & Wellbeing Assistance & Information

- **Maryland Health Connection** has launched a special enrollment period until April 15 for currently uninsured Marylanders. Visit <https://www.marylandhealthconnection.gov/coronavirus-sep/>
- Tents have been set up at various hospitals to support anticipated needs and the National Guard has been activated to support the medical response.
- Medical and Mental Health Services – the Maryland Governor has authorized telemedicine (via telephone) to encourage efficient, responsive, and safe methods of care.
- **Special Hotlines:**
 - Chinese Language COVID information Line, daily, 9am-6pm – 301-798-6001
 - CCACC-Pan Asian Volunteer hotline for all questions related to COVID-19
- For those struggling to cope with anxiety, stress, and other mental health issues, **EveryMind** has resources available at <https://www.every-mind.org/7493-2/> as well as specialists if you need to talk to someone. Call or text 301-738-2255.
- **Domestic Violence Assistance:** For free, confidential help on weekdays from 8:30am-5:00pm, contact either
 - The Family Justice Center at 240-773-0444

- Montgomery County's Abused Persons Program at 240-777-4195
- For 24-hour assistance, call the Montgomery County Crisis Center at 240-777-4000

Sick Leave

- **Paid Sick and Family Sick Leave** (CARES Act)– Some individuals may be eligible to receive two weeks of paid sick leave if unable to work due to quarantine, experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or caretaking responsibilities. For Employee Paid Leave Rights, go to: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-employee-paid-leave>

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILY SUPPORT



Housing

- Currently, there is a temporary [eviction moratorium](#) in place in Montgomery County and the State of Maryland. The moratorium prohibits landlords from physically removing renters from their homes for any reason. Evictions also may not happen without an eviction order, which cannot occur as long as Maryland courts are closed. Maryland courts are currently [closed through May 1](#). Housing inspectors and Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) have suspended all inspections.
- Montgomery County's DHCA Office of Landlord-Tenant Affairs recommends that tenants experiencing financial distress contact their landlord to discuss their situation and possible payment arrangements. Residents with questions or concerns also are invited to contact the County's Office of Landlord-Tenant Affairs directly by calling 311 or 240-777-0311 if dialing from outside of Montgomery County, submitting an [online request](#), or emailing olta.intake@montgomerycountymd.gov. Please visit: https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=25099
- **Monthly Bills** (Rent, Mortgage, Credit Cards): You are encouraged to contact your bill providers and request to defer payment. Many are working with customers at this time.
 - **Information for renters:** https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DHCA/dhca_cares.html#Information%20for%20renters
 - **Mortgage Forbearance:** Homeowners with FHA, USDA, VA, or Section 184 or 184A mortgages (for members of federally-recognized tribes) and those with mortgages backed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac have the right to request forbearance on their payments for up to 6 months, with a possible extension for another 6 months without fees, penalties, or extra interest. Homeowners should contact their mortgage servicing company directly.
 - **Emergency Housing and Rental Assistance:** Contact DHHS at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/COVID19Applications.html>
 - **For Landlords** - guidance can be found at https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DHCA/dhca_cares.html#Information%20for%20landlords

Financial Assistance

- **Montgomery County-** The Council approved a special appropriation of \$5 million in financial assistance to residents. Please visit https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=25094&Dept=1
- **Federal Stimulus Assistance to Individuals** (CARES Act) - Individuals must have a Social Security Number for themselves and their qualifying children to receive payments.
 - Individuals making up to \$75,000 (\$150,000 for married workers) will receive payments of \$1,200 with an additional \$500 payment per minor child. The payments decrease ratably and stop altogether for single workers making more than \$99,000 (\$198,000 for married workers and \$218,000 for a family of four.)
 - These payments will be issued by the IRS via direct deposit and will be based on 2019 or 2018 tax return or 2019 Social Security statement.
 - If someone has not filed a tax return in 2018 or 2019 and does not receive Social Security benefits, the IRS recommends filing a 2018 return to receive payment. If the IRS does not have the taxpayer's bank account information, the taxpayer should look for a letter from the IRS detailing how to receive their payment.

- If you receive Social Security, retirement or other social safety net benefits, you may still qualify for direct payments. These payments will not be taxable nor represent “resources” for program eligibility purposes. Click here for more information from the IRS.

Food

- A comprehensive list of food resources can be found at Montgomery County Food Council’s website at <https://mocofoodcouncil.org/covid-19-local-food-system-resources/>
- Also see the sections below on **Education and Children** for school meals distribution locations and **Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities** for other resources.

Manna Food Center 301-424-1130 Call to make an appointment by 3:00pm the day before you want to pick up; multiple distribution sites have been established throughout county	https://www.mannafood.org/covidresponse/ See website for multiple distribution sites https://www.mannafood.org/about/contact-manna/manna-food-distribution-sites/
Nourish Now 301-330-0222 Please call ahead	https://nourishnow.org/get-food/ 1111 Taft Street, Rockville
Catholic Charities Choice Food Pantry 301-942-1790 Please call ahead	https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/catholiccharitiescenter/ 12247 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring
Adventist Community Services 301-585-6556 Call in advance for an appointment	http://www.acsgw.org/food.html 501 Sligo Avenue, Silver Spring

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), more commonly known as food stamps, ensures that Americans receive the food they need, especially if newly unemployed. In order to apply, please visit <https://www.fns.usda.gov/fns-regional-offices> or <https://mydhrbenefits.dhr.state.md.us/dashboardclient/#/dssMap> or <http://dhr.maryland.gov/food-supplement-program/>
- The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC) provides access to nutritious foods to low-income pregnant women or mothers. Please visit: <https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/wic/Pages/Home.aspx>

Utilities

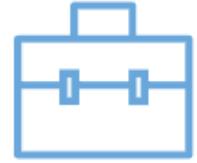
- Per the Maryland Governor’s order, utilities (water, gas, electric) are prohibited from shutting off services or charging late fees. Many utilities will work on with each customer on future payment arrangements.
- **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP):** <https://dhr.maryland.gov/office-of-home-energy-programs/>
- **Tap Water:** Don’t fall victim to scammers trying to sell you water filters. COVID-19 is not detected in water and not transmitted by water. **Your tap water is safe.** More information at www.wsscwater.com/coronavirus

Additional Resources

- **Info Montgomery** has more information on numerous private and nonprofit resources throughout the county, go to: <https://www.infomontgomery.org/covid-19-updates/> or call 311

- **Montgomery County Health and Human Services is open to serve residents:**
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/COVID19Applications.html>
- Comcast has opened the **Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots** nationally for free. Hotspot locations can be found here:
<https://hotspots.wifi.xfinity.com/> Enable by selecting “xfinitywifi”
- **Internet Essentials** – Comcast is providing 2 months of free service to new customers who apply by April 30. This service is available to qualified low-income households. Allow 5-7 days to receive installation kit. Low cost computers are also available through this program. To apply, go to <https://www.internetessentials.com/> or call 1-855-846-8376
- Digital Library Cards are now available from **Montgomery County Public Libraries**. Check out digital e-books and other online services at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/services/registration.html>

JOB/EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE



Job Opportunities

- COVID-19 has resulted in different job opportunities, mainly with essential businesses. Companies currently hiring include: 7-Eleven, Amazon, Domino's, Costco, Giant Foods, Safeway, Weis, Walmart, Adventist HealthCare, AKAL Security (for BWI Airport), and more. Some are temporary in support of COVID-19 operations.
- **To search for job openings:**
 - Visit WorkSource Montgomery for updated local opportunities at: <https://worksourcemontgomery.com/blogs/current-job-opportunities/>
 - Visit the Maryland Workforce Exchange at <https://mwejobs.maryland.gov> Click on "Find a Job" a bottom of webpage and enter the area to search.
 - Use Indeed.com or Monster.com. Tip: Search for the most recent job postings.

Unemployment Benefits

- Through the Federal CARES Act, **unemployment benefits** have been expanded to:
 - Provide an additional \$600 per week on top of normal state unemployment benefits through July 31
 - Provide an additional 13 weeks of benefits
 - Provide unemployment benefits to workers not typically eligible (self-employed, independent contractors, gig workers) for a maximum of 39 weeks

To file a claim for unemployment benefits, go to <https://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/unemployment.shtml>.

The call center hours are 7:00am to 6:00pm at 410-949-0022. Please note that due to high volume, you will experience unusually long wait times. To assist with the volume of applicants, please see info for which day to file according to your last name. You are strongly encouraged to file online during non-peak hours.

- **Self-employed, independent contractors, gig workers, and workers with insufficient work history** will be able to file for unemployment benefits as soon as the system can be implemented. Please do not apply until the Maryland Department of Labor has set up the process. Once up and running, benefits will be provided back to the earliest date of eligibility. More info at: <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/uicaresfaq.pdf>
- Current and new unemployment insurance benefit recipients are exempt from the requirement to actively seek work for a 10-week period beginning the week of March 20. More info at <https://mwejobs.maryland.gov/vosnet/Default.aspx>

Economic Impact Payments

- Eligible taxpayers will receive Economic Impact Payments of up to \$1,200 for individuals and \$2,400 for married couples and up to \$500 for each qualifying child.
- Payments will be automatically distributed via direct deposit to your bank account. If the IRS does not have your banking information, a web portal will soon be developed to enter this information.
- Please do not call the IRS. For more information, go to: <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus>

EDUCATION & CHILDREN



School Meals

- MCPS Grab-and-Go Bags are being distributed Monday through Friday – 11am to 1pm at more than 40 locations in Montgomery County. Weekend Smart Sacks are also being distributed at select locations on Fridays. Drive up or walk to the location. For an updated list of locations: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/coronavirus/#emergencymeals>
 - **TEMPORARY SCHEDULE CHANGE FOR APRIL 8 THROUGH APRIL 13**
 - **On Wednesday, April 8, two days of MCPS grab-and-go meals will be provided.**
 - **No MCPS grab-and-go meals will be distributed on April 9 (Thursday), April 10 (Friday), or April 13 (Monday) due to MCPS Holidays.**
 - **Weekend Smart Sacks will be distributed on Saturday, April 11. Go to <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/coronavirus/meals/#emergencymeals>**
- School buildings are not open. Meals are dispensed via refrigerated trucks outside each location.

Childcare

- Designated essential personnel working in response to the COVID-19 pandemic who require childcare are immediately able to obtain state-funded childcare programs at no cost by going to <https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/state-funded-child-care-essential-personnel> to see a list of providers. For questions, contact MSDE child care referral specialists at 877-261-0060.
- Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has ordered all childcare providers except those serving essential personnel to close.

Montgomery County Public Schools

- The State of Maryland has ordered all schools to remain closed through April 24.
- MCPS is regularly updating their website: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/> with activities and resources as well as learning plans and information on the distribution of Chromebooks and mobile Wi-Fi hotspot devices as needed.
- SAT – the College Board has canceled the March 28 and May 2 SAT administration. Students will receive a refund. For more info: <https://pages.collegeboard.org/natural-disasters>
- ACT - ACT has rescheduled its April 4 national test date to June 13. All students registered for the April 4 test date will receive an email from ACT providing instructions for free rescheduling to a future test date.
- AP Testing - For the 2019–20 exam administration only, students can take a 45-minute online free-response exam at home. More info at <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/news-changes/coronavirus-update>

Higher Education

- **Montgomery College/USG/UMD:** Classes are being conducted online. Students should check emails regularly for instructions from their professors as well as for information on assistance being offered by the institution to help students throughout this crisis.
- For information on **Student Loans** and **Federal Work-Study**, go to <https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/coronavirus> . Relief for Federal student loan borrowers includes waiving interest and pausing loan payments for a certain period.

SENIORS & INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES



Connection

- **Senior Call Check** – Call 1-866-502-0560 or register online at www.aging.maryland.gov to receive a daily call to verify well-being of participant. Any Maryland resident of 65 years or older can participate in this free program.
- **Social Connection – Empowering the Ages’s Sharing Smiles** connects adults to youth in response to social isolation from COVID-19. Go to <https://empoweringtheages.org/sharing-smiles/>
- **Virtual Events – Senior Planet** offers free virtual events for seniors at <https://seniorplanet.org/coronavirus/>
- **Transportation** - Various options are available for those customers with no signs of illness. Please use only for essential travel. Visit <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Transit/seniors.html> for complete information.
 - For details on MetroAccess, call 301-562-5360 or go to <https://www.wmata.com/service/accessibility/metro-access/>
 - Call-n-Ride Discounted Taxi, call 301-948-5409
 - Senior Connection – 301.962.0820. <https://www.seniorconnectionmc.org/>
- **Montgomery County Resources for Older Adults:** <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS-Program/Resources/Files/A&D%20Docs/ResourcePacketForOlderAdultsDuringCOVID19.pdf>

Food Assistance

- **Dedicated Shopping Hours for Seniors** - Grocery stores, including Giant, Safeway, Whole Foods, and Target are offering dedicated shopping hours for seniors and vulnerable individuals (immune suppressed), typically the first hour each day. For a list of stores and hours, visit <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/Resources/Files/COVID19GroceryStores.pdf>
- **Montgomery County Senior Nutrition Program** – for ages 60 and over, spouse of adult age 60 and over, and disabled residents. For info on weekly frozen meal delivery and registration info, go to: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec/Resources/Files/MCR%20Senior%20Meal%20Information.pdf>
Due to rapidly increasing demand, service cannot be guaranteed to everyone at this time. If capacity is exceeded, names will be placed on a waiting list. Individuals interested in learning more about the food delivery, the grab and go locations, and to register for the meal program can contact the Senior Center nearest them:
 - **Damascus Senior Center**
Tony Edghill 240-535-0732 Anthony.edghill@montgomerycountymd.gov
 - **Holiday Park Senior Center, Silver Spring**
Dolors Ustrell-Roig 240-460-2236 Dolors.Ustrell@montgomerycountymd.gov
 - **Long Branch Senior Center, Silver Spring**
Mary Pelz 301-332-4451 Mary.Pelz@montgomerycountymd.gov
 - **Schweinhaut Senior Center, Silver Spring**
Karen Maxin 240-805-3712 Karen.maxin@montgomerycountymd.gov
 - **North Potomac Senior Center, Rockville**
Sheila Hall 202-450-8057 Sheila.hall@montgomerycountymd.gov
 - **Wheaton Senior Center**
Alex Alcon 202-760-1003 Alejandro.alcon@montgomerycountymd.gov
 - **White Oak Senior Center, Silver Spring**
TeAnna Abraham 240-678-5696 TeAnna.Abraham@montgomerycountymd.gov

- **Food Resources and Meal Delivery** – Visit <https://mocofoodcouncil.org/covid-19-local-food-system-resources/#unique-identifier1> for a continually updated list of resources to include grocery assistance.

BUSINESS AND NONPROFIT ASSISTANCE



County Assistance

On March 31st, the Montgomery County Council approved an emergency grant program and \$20 million in funding for small businesses and nonprofits impacted by COVID-19. The programs are as follows:

- Emergency Assistance Funding has been approved with the application directions not yet available. For updates, go to <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/Coronavirus-biz.html>
 - **Public Health Emergency Grant (PHEG) Program** – Montgomery County businesses and nonprofits with 100 employees (FTE) or less are eligible of grants up to \$75,000 with micro-grants of up to \$2,500 for teleworking technology.
 - **COVID-19 Human Services and Community Assistance Funding** – Montgomery County nonprofits providing safety net services for vulnerable residents are encouraged to apply when the application becomes available.

State Assistance

- The **State of Maryland** has announced several programs to assist businesses.
 - **Maryland Department of Labor:** <http://www.labor.maryland.gov/employment/covidlafund.shtml>
 - Layoff Aversion Fund – 3/30 update: no longer accepting applications
 - **Maryland Department of Commerce:** <https://commerce.maryland.gov/fund/maryland-small-business-covid-19-emergency-relief-fund-programs> - 4/7 update: no longer accepting applications
 - Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Loan Fund
 - Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Fund
 - Maryland COVID-19 Emergency Relief Manufacturing Fund
- **Small Business Administration (SBA)** Disaster Loan Assistance is now available for Montgomery County businesses at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>
- The State Comptroller has announced businesses can defer state tax payments to July 15.

Federal Assistance

- **Small Business Administration** – go to <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options> for information on
 - **Paycheck Protection Program** - An SBA loan that helps businesses keep their workforce employed during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.
 - **Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Emergency Advance** - This loan advance will provide up to \$10,000 of economic relief to businesses that are currently experiencing temporary difficulties.
 - **SBA Express Bridge Loan** - allows small businesses who currently have a business relationship with an SBA Express Lender to access up to \$25,000 quickly.
 - **SBA Debt Relief** - The SBA is providing a financial reprieve to small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional Resources

Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation	https://thinkmoco.com/covid-19-resources?mc_cid=99e1ec3829&mc_eid=3dc46923a4
Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services	https://montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/Coronavirus-biz.html
Maryland Business Express	https://businessexpress.maryland.gov/coronavirus
NonProfit Montgomery	https://www.nonprofitmoco.org/covid19/

PUBLIC & PRIVATE SERVICES



Closures

- Per the Governor's March 23 order, all non-essential businesses and establishments must close. For a list of essential businesses which are not required to close, visit <https://governor.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/OLC-Interpretive-Guidance-COVID19-04.pdf>
- Indoor Park Facilities, Libraries, Senior Centers, Recreation Centers, Aquatic Centers, Movie Theaters, Gyms, Shopping Malls, Entertainment Venues are closed.
 - **Montgomery Parks** has limited gatherings in parks to 10 people and cautions against using playground equipment without hand sanitizer. Please avoid large groups and/or sports gatherings.
- An updated list of local government facility closures and service modifications can be found at: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OEMHS/COVID19-Closures.html>

Temporary Restrictions/Waivers/Suspensions

- Under the State of Emergency, vehicles displaying **expired handicapped permits** are not to be towed. Permits will remain valid at least 30 days after the emergency has ended.
- Under the State of Emergency, the expiration date of **driver's licenses, vehicle registrations, and professional licenses** issued by the State of Maryland is extended to the 30th day after the date by which the State of Emergency is rescinded.
- Under the State of Emergency, **no electric, gas, sewage disposal, telegraph, telephone, water, cable television provider, or internet service provider** shall terminate service to a residence nor charge a late fee for payment due from March 16 until May 1.

Essential Services/Modified Services

- **Montgomery County Map of Essential Services:** The Ride On map shows current bus service, pharmacies, grocery stores, dialysis clinics, hospitals, and MCPS food distribution sites in the county. Go to <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Transit/essential-plan-routes.html>
- Grocery stores, pharmacies, banks and gas stations are among the essential businesses that will remain open and will be resupplied. Hours of operation have been decreased to allow for cleaning and restocking. Check before going. Note that many deliver but have been overwhelmed by orders.
- **Dedicated Shopping Hours for Seniors** - Grocery stores, including Giant, Safeway, Whole Foods, and Target are offering dedicated shopping hours for seniors and vulnerable individuals (immune suppressed), typically the first hour each day. For a list of stores and hours, visit <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/Resources/Files/COVID19GroceryStores.pdf>
- **Restaurants and Bars** are open for carry-out and drive-through only; no eat-in customers. Go to www.moco eats.com for a directory of Montgomery County restaurants who provide take-out and/or delivery service.
- The **US Postal Service** is an essential service. For more info, visit <https://faq.usps.com/s/article/USPS-Coronavirus-Updates-for-Residential-Customers>
- **Trash/Recycling/Transfer Station**
 - Transfer Station hours now 9am-5pm, 7 days per week to accommodate one shift of staff.
 - Recycling/trash collection – normal schedule for county collection
 - For private hauler trash collection, please contact them directly for any collection changes.

Transportation

- **Montgomery County Ride On** – <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Transit/essential-plan-routes.html> All fares are suspended. Operating on reduced Essential Service plan seven days a week to support medical providers, first responders, and workers critical to emergency efforts. To protect our drivers, please board through rear doors. Do not take any public transportation if you do not feel well.
- **Metrorail – Essential travel only!**
 - As of March 26, several METRO stations are closed with limited service hours to conserve cleaning supplies and due to low ridership. Visit <https://www.wmata.com/> for information.
- **Metrobus – Emergency Schedule. Essential travel only!**
 - Bus service is greatly reduced to 20 routes to prevent crowding and ensure areas are not cut off. Visit <https://www.wmata.com/> for information about routes that will operate.
 - IMPORTANT: Bus operators are granted the authority to bypass bus stops to maintain safe social distancing aboard the vehicle. Digital signs, websites, apps and timetables will NOT reflect accurate information about bus schedules. Board bus through rear doors.
- All Metro Access subscription trips are cancelled until further notice. Customers with a critical need to travel should make a separate reservation calling 301-562-5360 (TTY 301-588-7535) or via the online reservation system.
- **Capital Bikeshare:** is offering a program to give essential workers, including those in the healthcare, food service, and food retailer industries, free 30-day bikeshare memberships. Through May 1, eligible essential workers can sign up through their employer to access unlimited 30-minute trips on our bikes for 30 days. Reach out to herobikes@Lyft.com if you are an essential worker and want to participate in the program.
- **Lyft Electric Scooters** is offering free 30-day memberships for essential workers. Interested employers and employees should email HeroBikes@Lyft.com a request to enroll.
- **EScooters** – Lime has paused service and deployment.
- **Highway Tolling** - all-electronic (cashless) tolling in effect. All drivers should KEEP MOVING through toll plazas without stopping. Cash payment lanes will operate as video tolling (cashless) lanes. Motorists who usually pay with cash will be mailed a Notice of Toll Due for the cash toll rate.

PUBLIC DUTIES



Taxes

- The Maryland and Federal Income Tax filing and payment deadlines have both been extended to July 15. You are encouraged to file immediately if you anticipate a refund.

June 1	Returns and payments are due for Maryland business-related taxes not collected in March, April and May including sales and use tax, withholding tax, and admissions & amusement tax, alcohol tax, tobacco tax, and motor fuel tax, as well as tire recycling fee and bay restoration fee returns.
July 15	Deadline for Maryland individual, corporate, pass through entity, and fiduciary income tax payments, as well as March quarterly estimated payments
October 15	Deadline for filing Maryland income tax returns if a federal extension was filed.

- For assistance with Maryland tax filings, email taxhelp@marylandtaxes.gov or 1-800-MD-TAXES.

Economic Impact Payments

- Eligible taxpayers will receive Economic Impact Payments of up to \$1,200 for individuals and \$2,400 for married couples and up to \$500 for each qualifying child.
- Payments will be automatically distributed via direct deposit to your bank account. If the IRS does not have your banking information, a web portal will soon be developed to enter this information.
- Please do not call the IRS. For more information, go to: <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus>

Voting

- Per the Maryland Governor's proclamation, the Maryland State primary is postponed until June 2 (similar to other states). The election will be conducted primarily by mail-in ballot unless a voter requires assistance or must vote in person for another reason. More information will be shared soon on how ballots will be provided and where in-person voting sites will be located.
- The Special election for 7th District Congressional Seat will be held through vote by mail – 7th District only. All voters in the 7th Congressional District will receive a ballot for this election. To be counted, ballots for this election must be postmarked on or before April 28, 2020.

HELPING OTHERS



- To **Volunteer** as well as for donation requests, we encourage you to go to the Montgomery County Volunteer Center COVID-19 Response website:
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter/> Search for opportunities for “Emergency Response” and thank you!!
- The State of Maryland also has a place to **volunteer** at <https://governor.maryland.gov/marylandunites/>
- For **Food Donations**, please contact Manna Food Center at <https://www.mannafood.org/covidresponse/> or Nourish Now at 240-499-6380.
- For **Blood Donations**, go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive> to schedule an appointment.
- **Donations of Personal Protective Equipment (gloves, wipes, N95 masks)** – please complete the online form at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScYSJpiwEM7oYN3SmJr8yaBlrbO8nGOPZBG6xBEj4U0NIH9aQ/viewform>
- **To sell Personal Protective Equipment** to the county, please email procure@montgomerycountymd.gov
- **Healthcare professionals** who would like to volunteer in support of the medical mass surge staffing, please register for the Medical Reserve Corps at <https://mdr.health.maryland.gov/Pages/MRCNetwork.aspx>
- **Social Connection** – Empowering the Ages’s **Sharing Smiles** connects adults to youth in response to social isolation from COVID-19. Go to <https://empoweringtheages.org/sharing-smiles/>
- Unlike in the past, personally showing up with baked goods and meals for first responders is highly discouraged. Please consider donating to their respective foundations instead.

OTHER RELIABLE SOURCES OF INFORMATION



Everyone is encouraged to be smart when seeking information on the internet. The following are other reliable sites to obtain helpful information and resources:

State of Maryland

<https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/> and <https://governor.maryland.gov/marylandunites/>
COVID-19 in 10 different languages: <https://goci.maryland.gov/covid19-translations/>

Centers for Disease Control – an excellent resource on how to protect yourself & what to do if you think you are sick
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html> and <https://www.coronavirus.gov/>

Montgomery County Government

<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/Coronavirus.html>

Rockville Economic Development, Inc – Resources for Rockville Businesses

<https://rockvilleredi.org/covid-19-resources/>

Universities at Shady Grove – Community Resources

<https://shadygrove.umd.edu/student-services/csef/community-resources/covid19-resources>

World Health Organization

Mythbusters: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters>